This small, one story log house contained two rooms downstairs, and was one of the first houses built in the Sugarland community, a community of Black landowners. It was constructed by Joe Curtis, one of the "slavery - time people", according to oral tradition. Unlike many log houses of that time in more isolated regions of Maryland and the South, this one had plank floors, glass windows, wood stoves--some of the mass-produced conveniences of the indsutrial age in the 19th century.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Joe Curtis Log House (Site)

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

West side of Sugarland Lane

CITY, TOWN		CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
Poolesville	_X_ VICINITY OF (Sugarland)	3
STATE	Md.	COUNTY
		Montgomery

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
__DISTRICT	__PUBLIC	__OCCUPIED	__AGRICULTURE	__MUSEUM
__BUILDING(S)	**X** PRIVATE	**X** UNOCCUPIED	__COMMERCIAL	__PARK
__STRUCTURE	__BOTH	__WORK IN PROGRESS	__EDUCATIONAL	__PRIVATE RESIDENCE
X SITE	**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**	**ACCESSIBLE**	__ENTERTAINMENT	__RELIGIOUS
__OBJECT	__IN PROCESS	**X** YES: RESTRICTED	__GOVERNMENT	__SCIENTIFIC
	__BEING CONSIDERED	__YES: UNRESTRICTED	__INDUSTRIAL	__TRANSPORTATION
		__NO	__MILITARY	**X** OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

Forest

NAME   Ned. B. and C.L. Curtis   Telephone #: 949-4816

STREET & NUMBER
11206 Newport Mill Rd.

CITY, TOWN		STATE, zip code
Kensington	__ VICINITY OF	Md.

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

Liber #: 2965

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.   County Courthouse, Land Records   Folio #:   4816

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN		STATE
Rockville		Md.

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
None

DATE

__FEDERAL __STATE __COUNTY __LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN   STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
__EXCELLENT	__DETERIORATED	__UNALTERED	X ORIGINAL SITE
__GOOD	__RUINS	X ALTERED	__MOVED DATE_____
__FAIR	X UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This house is no longer standing, but Tilghman Lee whose property is adjacent, remembers it well:

It was a one story log house, rectangular in form, and resembled the Dorsey house on the tract of land to the north. Its facade was oriented toward the east, toward Sugarland Lane. It contained a door near the center and a window to the west. The northern gable end held a door too. The log walls were supported by stones set into a footing trench. Lee recalls that if footings were not used for these houses, then they were simply set up on upright stones at the four corners and midpoint. The log walls themselves were bare, as they were on all the log houses originally, but were whitewashed outside and inside.

There was no frame shed added on to the back of this house, as on the Dorsey's house. There was no fireplace; a wood stove was used. Lee remembers that there was no stove flue or chimney, instead a clay stove pipe ascended through the middle of the roof. Probably only one wood stove was used to heat both rooms. There were plank floors in each room. Lee knew of no houses that had earthern floors in this community. Lee had heard of houses with dirt floors, but had never seen one. There was a wood shingled roof. Lee remembers that tin was first used on barns and outbuildings and later they began putting tin roofs on houses. Lee remembers the days of wood shingle barns, being about 17 when they began putting tin on barns (c. 1910) He was about two or three years older when they began applying the tin to houses (c. 1912-1913).

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
_PREHISTORIC	_ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	_COMMUNITY PLANNING	_LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	_RELIGION
_1400-1499	X_ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	_CONSERVATION	_LAW	_SCIENCE
_1500-1599	_AGRICULTURE	_ECONOMICS	_LITERATURE	_SCULPTURE
_1600-1699	X_ARCHITECTURE	_EDUCATION	_MILITARY	X_SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
_1700-1799	_ART	_ENGINEERING	_MUSIC	_THEATER
X_1800-1899	_COMMERCE	_EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	_PHILOSOPHY	_TRANSPORTATION
_1900-	_COMMUNICATIONS	_INDUSTRY	_POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	_OTHER (SPECIFY)
		_INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES C. 1870's   BUILDER/ARCHITECT Joe Curtis and Neighbors

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

There is no deed for this property to show when the Curtis purchased it, nor from whom. Presumably it was purchased from the Webb family, like most other Sugarland landowners. According to Lee, this house was the home of Joe Curtis, one of the oldest of the "slave-time people", and his house was reputed to have been among the first built. At one-time, Lee recalls, Sugarland was known as "Curtisville" after the Curtis family since they were among the first, if not the first, to settle this community.

The smaller design of this house is more in keeping with the smaller log houses of slaves, and this house therefore stands as one of the beginning points for the history of housing in Sugarland.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Oral Interviews: Tilghman Lee, Sugarland community, June-July, 1978
Land Records, Montgomery County Courthouse

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	COUNTY
STATE	COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

George W. McDaniel, Surveyor   Wesley Stubbs, Research Assistant

ORGANIZATION

Sugarloaf Regional Trails

DATE

July 1978

STREET & NUMBER

Box 87

TELEPHONE

926-4510

CITY OR TOWN

Dickerson

STATE

Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.
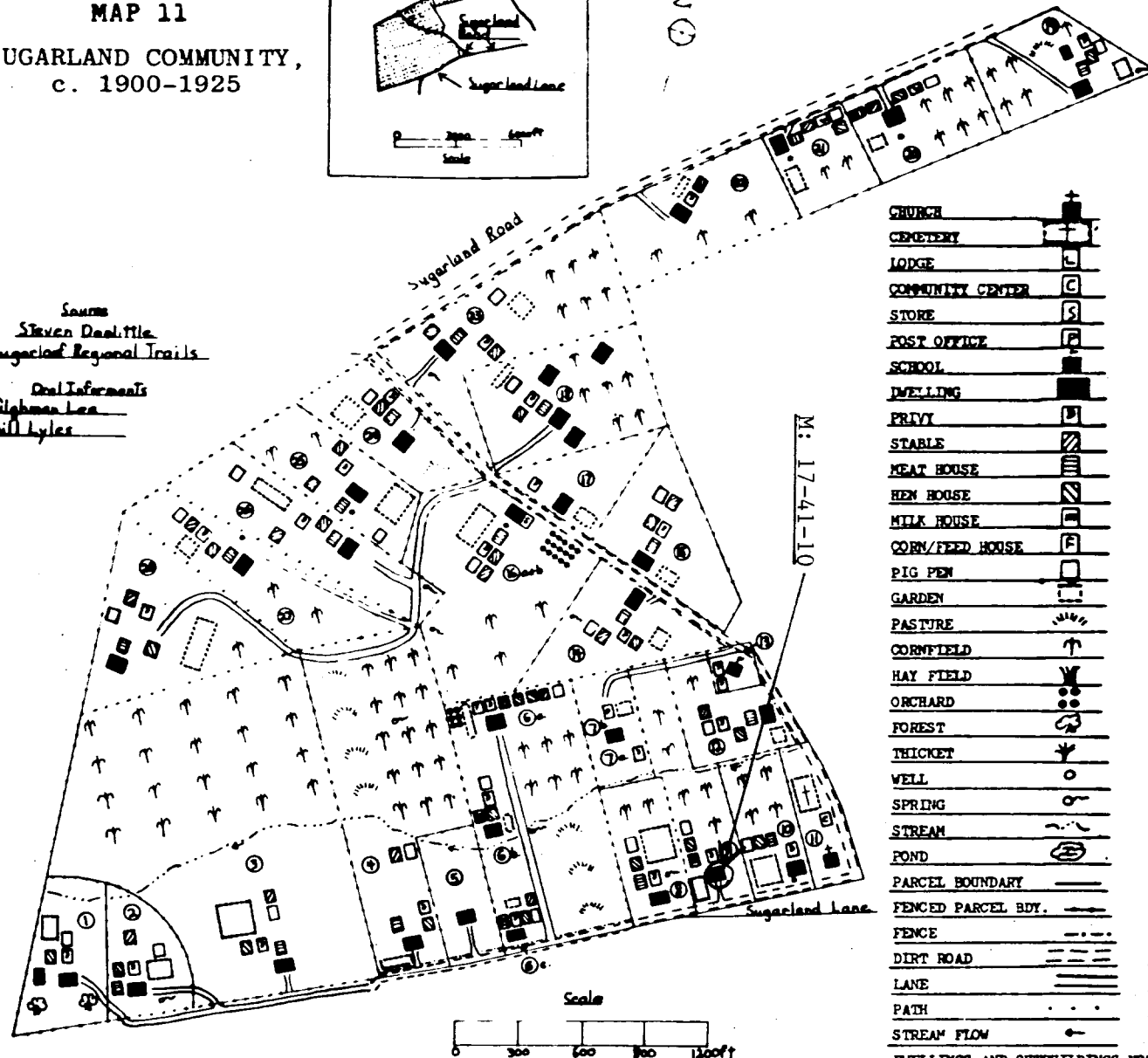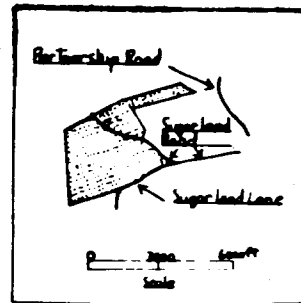
The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
             The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
             Annapolis, Maryland 21401
             (301) 267-1438

PS-1108

MAP 11

SUGARLAND COMMUNITY, c. 1900-1925

N

Sugarland Road

Sugarland Lane

M: 17-41-10

Key

Symbol	
CHURCH	
CEMETERY	
LODGE	L
COMMUNITY CENTER	C
STORE	S
POST OFFICE	P
SCHOOL	
DWELLING	
PRIVY	
STABLE	
MEAT HOUSE	
HEN HOUSE	
MILK HOUSE	
CORN/FEED HOUSE	F
PIG PEN	
GARDEN	
PASTURE	
CORNFIELD	
HAY FIELD	
ORCHARD	
FOREST	
THICKET	
WELL	o
SPRING	
STREAM	
POND	
PARCEL BOUNDARY	
FENCED PARCEL BDY.	
FENCE	
DIRT ROAD	
LANE	
PATH	
STREAM FLOW	

DWELLINGS AND OUTBUILDINGS NOT DRAWN TO SCALE

HSTD. = HOMESTEAD   PROP. = PROPERTY

No.	Name	Acreage
1.	JAMES BECKWITH HSTD.	3.00 AC.
2.	TILGHMAN BECKWITH HSTD.	4.00 AC.
3.	JOHN ADAMS HSTD.	18.00 AC.
4.	LEWIS GARNETT HSTD.	14.00 AC.
5.	PETER JACKSON HSTD.	3.00 AC.
6a.	PATRICK HEBRON HSTD.	17.00 AC.
b.	LUKE HEBRON HSTD.	
c.	ROBERT HEBRON HSTD.	
7a.	NATHAN JOHNSON HSTD.	3.00 AC.
b.	POST OFFICE	
8.	JOHN HIGGINS HSTD.	4.00 AC.
9.	JOE CURTIS HSTD.	6.00 AC.
10.	EASIL DORSEY HSTD.	4.00 AC.
11.	ST. PAUL'S M.E. CHURCH	1.00 AC.
12.	HORACE JACKSON HSTD.	2.00 AC.
13.	SUGARLAND SCHOOL	1.00 AC.
14.	SAM BEANDER HSTD.	6.00 AC.
15.	THOMAS NICHOLS HSTD.	10.00 AC.
16a.	BENJAMIN SPARROUGH HSTD.	14.75 AC.
b.	SUGARLAND STORE	
17.	CHARLES JACKSON HSTD.	4.50 AC.
18.	LUKE LYNCH & FAMILY HSTD.	10.00 AC.
19.	WILLIAM TAYLOR HSTD.	3.00 AC.
20.	LLOYD COATES HSTD.	4.00 AC.
21.	SAMUEL JOHNSON HSTD.	4.00 AC.
22.	JOHN DIGGS HSTD.	4.00 AC.
23.	JOHN BRANISON HSTD.	11.00 AC.
24.	RAF BRANISON HSTD.	6.00 AC.
25.	PHILLIP JOHNSON HSTD.	6.00 AC.
26.	ISAAC BELL HSTD.	10.00 AC.
27.	SAMUEL LEE HSTD.	6.00 AC.
28.	LEVI HALL HSTD.	10.00 AC.

Scale

0   300   600   900   1200 ft

M: 17-41-10

STERLING QUADRANGLE
VIRGINIA–MARYLAND
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)
SW/4 SENECA 15' QUADRANGLE

291 25'   2 310 000 FEET (VA)   292   293   POOLESVILLE 3 MI   77°22'30"   39°07'30"

107

DAWSONVILLE 1.5 MI
WASHINGTON, D.C. 25 MI

530 000 FEET (VA.)

4332

4331

4330

4329

5'

River Road Country Club

M: 17-41-10
Joe Curtis Log House, site
Sterling Quad, 1968

Russell

Branch

REDDICK

Branch

BUD ROAD
ROAD
HUGHES RD

BM
307

329
359

310
300
288
300
250
290
273   SUGARLAND   ROAD
300
319
318
Sugarland
St Paul Ch.
SUGARLAND LA.
SUGARLAND RD
320
300

WILLARD   ROAD
250
261
227
250
TON   WAY
18

Hornpen

BM
245
ROAD
252
250
230
SENECA 1.9 MI

SYCAMORE LANDING   ROAD
195
195
195
190
190

CHESAPEAKE   AND   OHIO

I V E R
190